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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITYTRANSLATION
PCTWRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing **See form PCT/ISA/210**
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

R. 307095 Steinmetz/

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/002435

International filing date (day/month/year)

04.11.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

29.12.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

B60S1/34, B60S1/32

Applicant

ROBERT BOSCH GMBH

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/002435

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/DE2004/002435

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1 The present opinion makes reference to the following documents:

D1: WO 01/68423 A (ROBERT BOSCH GMBH; KUEHBAUCH, GERD) 20 September 2001 (2001-09-20)

D2: WO 96/22204 A (ITT AUTOMOTIVE EUROPE GMBH; SCHAELE, OLIVER; ORTALE, ALESSANDRO; KOEHLE) 25 July 1996 (1996-07-25)

D3: US 2003/233724 A1 (WEILER MICHAEL ET AL.) 25 December 2003 (2003-12-25)

2 D1 is considered the closest prior art. It discloses (the references between parentheses apply to this document):

a wiper device for wiping a windscreen of a motor vehicle, with a wiper arm (14, 26) and two link levers (10, 18), the link levers (10, 18) being connected to the wiper arm (14, 26) at fastening points (16, 20) in a manner such that they can pivot into a wiper plane,

from which the subject matter of independent claim 1 differs in that:

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

at least one of the link levers is of spring-elastic design essentially perpendicular to the wiper plane in order to bring about a force which presses the wiper arm onto the windscreen.

- 2.1 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of being able to construct the wiper system with a low overall height, since a joint in the wiper arm can be omitted.

- 2.2 The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:
- a) the link lever from D1 is not of spring-elastic design but rather is provided with a compensating spring;
 - b) the abovementioned combination of features of claim 1 is neither known from the available prior art nor is it rendered obvious by it, cf., D2, D3.

- 2.3 Claims 2-10 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

- 3 Use in vehicle manufacturing.